Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph that starts at line 9 on page 7 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Cells were grown in culture overnight and autoclaved (15 minutes at 121° C). 20 µl of autoclaved sample was added to one ml of an appropriately diluted antiserum in buffer and a fluorescence blank obtained (~~Sentry-FP™ instrument~~ SENTRY-FP™ fluorescence polarization analyzer; Diachemix Corp.). To this mixture was added 10 µl of appropriately diluted tracer. The reaction mixture was incubated at room temperature for 4 minutes, and the blank-subtracted fluorescence polarization (FP) of the tracer determined. A sample having a fluorescence polarization less than 10 mP of that of medium alone (5 standard deviations: SDs) was considered positive.

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Please replace the paragraph that starts at line 3 on page 9 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

SE, ST, and SM cells were grown in tryptic soy broth overnight at 37° C. EC cells were similarly grown in EC medium. Cultures were killed by autoclaving at 121° C for 15 minutes before assaying. 20 µl of the autoclaved culture was added to 1 ml of diluted antiserum in PBSA (0.01 M sodium phosphate, pH 7.5, containing 9 g/l sodium chloride and 0.1% sodium azide). A fluorescence blank was taken (~~Sentry FP™~~ SENTRY-FP™ fluorescence polarization analyzer, Diachemix Corp., Grayslake, IL) and 10 µl of tracer, diluted in PBSA-BGG (PBSA containing 100 µg/ml bovine gamma globulin) such that a 1:100 dilution gave approximately 1 nM fluorescein equivalents, was then added. The blank-subtracted fluorescence polarization of the tracer was then determined after four minutes.

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